(c) whether the report will be submitted to the Legislative Council for ascertaining the opinion of the Council; and if so, when?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—(a) One year and eight months.

(b) and (c) Government are considering the question.

Toddy and arrack consumption in the State.

252. Mr. A. B. Salem.—(a) Will the Government be pleased to inform the total revenue collected in the State in the year 1104 by sale of toddy and arrack up to the first of Mithunam 1104;

(b) will the Government be pleased to inform the quantity of toddy and arrack consumed in the State according to official records in 1104; what provision exists to regulate the quantity of arrack and toddy in the taverns and shops that are licensed; how does the Government ascertain the exact quantity sold out from these licensed taverns and shops;

(c) will the Government further be pleased to state the average consumption of arrack and toddy per head in the State;

(d) how many cases of the manufacture of arrack and toddy illicitly have been detected by the Departments in 1104;

(e) what is the number of prosecutions launched for such illicit manufacture of arrack, and how many of them ended in conviction, and how many were acquitted in the year 1104;

(f) what is the total amount of fine collected for such offences in the year 1104;

(g) what is the total number of arrack shops in the State and what is the total number of toddy shops in the State sanctioned in the year 1104;

(h) has the Government reduced the number of shops as desired by the Council in the year 1104; if so, what is the number so reduced; and what is the proportion of reduction to the total number of shops;

(i) what steps has the Government taken towards the policy of prohibition in the year 1104; and what further steps are to be introduced by them in the year 1105;

(j) what is the total quantity of opium imported into the State in the year 1104 up-to-date, and how much more is expected to be imported before the end of the year;

(k) what is the quantity of ganja imported up-to-date and what is the quantity expected to be imported during the next two months of the year;

(l) what is the amount of rebate obtained for the above imports of ganja and opium?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—(a) Rs. 10,05,131—5—8.

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(b) The figure under toddy is not available, but that under arrack is 45,740 proof gallons up to 31st Mithunam 1104. The only provision to regulate the quantity of arrack and toddy is with regard to the quantity that can be sold which is the same as that fixed for transport without a permit and possession without a license. (24 drams in the case of toddy and 6 drams in the case of arrack.) In the case of arrack shops where accounts are ordered to be maintained the quantity sold out can be ascertained from the account books; but in other shops only the quantity purchased by the shop-keeper can be known from the indent book. The quantity of toddy sold out is not known as no accounts are maintained ; but it can be roughly estimated from the number of trees licensed for a shop.

(c) ·042 of a proof gallon in the case of arrack. For toddy no figure can be given.

(d) 10 and 318 respectively up to 8th Karkadagam 1104.

(e) 1 arrack case and 25 toddy cases were charged and all ended in conviction. One arrack case and 224 toddy cases were compounded departmentally and 6 toddy cases were departmentally released. The rest of the cases are pending.

(f) Rs. 3,016—8—0.

(g) 223 and 418 respectively.

(h) Yes, 7 and 11; 7/230 and 11/429, i. e., 3·04% and 2·5%

(i) First part. Vide answer to Legislative Council question No. 66 of this session.

Second part. 6 arrack shops, 13 toddy shops and 2 F. L. 3 are to be abolished. The limit of private possession is to be reduced to 4 drams. In accordance with the Council's wishes toddy shops are to be removed from road sides wherever possible in consultation with the local public.

(j) 1,300 seers. No more opium is intended to be imported this year.

(k) 940 seers. No more will be imported for 1104.

(l) Rs. 51,071—4—0.

Foreign Liquor.

253. Mr. A. B. Salem.—(a) Will the Government be pleased to inform the number of foreign liquor shops licensed in the year 1104; and

(b) the total quantity of foreign liquor consumed in the State up to the 1st of Mithunam 1104;

(c) will the Government also be pleased to inform the amount of revenue derived from the foreign liquor shop licenses and by violation of the rules regulating the shop ?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—(a) 46.

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